GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2076
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2017
Post Office and Population Ratio
Patel Smt. Jayshreeben

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the global standards regarding the setting up of post offices per persons and India's position in this regard; and

(b) whether provisions of ATMs and money banks are made in post offices and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (IC) OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS &
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI MANOJ SINHA)

(a) The standards for setting up of post offices vary from country to country. There are no global standards for setting up of post offices per person. However, opening of new post offices in uncovered & justified areas in India is an ongoing process subject to fulfillment of the prescribed norms related to distance, population, income and subject to availability of funds and manpower. The norms for opening of post offices are at Annexure- I.

(b) Yes Madam. Provisions of ATMs and savings bank are made in post offices. As on 09/03/2017, 976 ATMs have been installed. The State-wise details are at Annexure-II.

ANNEXURE − I

NORMS FOR OPENING OF NEW POST OFFICES

1. Norms for opening of Branch Post Offices (BOs):
1.1 Population:
(a) In Normal Areas:
3000 population in the group of villages to be served by the proposed post office (including 1000 population in the proposed post office village).
(b) In Hill, Tribal, Desert and Inaccessible Areas:
500 population in the individual village and 1000 population in the group of villages.
1.2 Distance:
(a) In Normal Areas: The minimum distance from the nearest existing post office should be 3 Kms.
(b) In Hill, Tribal, Desert and Inaccessible Areas: The distance limit will be the same as above. However, in Hill Areas, the minimum distance limit can be relaxed by the Postal Directorate in cases where such relaxation is warranted by special circumstances which should be clearly explained while submitting a proposal.
1.3 Anticipated Income:
(a) In Normal Areas: The minimum anticipated revenue will be 33.33 % of the cost.
(b) In Hill, Tribal, Desert and Inaccessible Areas: The minimum anticipated income will be 15% of the cost.
It is further to be ensured that as a result of opening of a new BO, the loss in respect of the parent post office does not increase beyond the permissible limit nor does its income reduce below the minimum prescribed.
2. Norms for upgrading/ opening of Departmental Sub Offices (SOs):
(a) In Rural Areas: The minimum work load of the Branch Post Office proposed to be upgraded, should be five hours per day. The permissible limit of annual loss is Rs.2400/- in normal rural areas and Rs.4800/- in hill and tribal areas.
It is further to be ensured that as a result of opening of a new post office, the loss in respect of the parent post office does not increase beyond the permissible limit nor does its income reduce below the minimum prescribed.
(b) In Urban Areas: In urban areas, the post office should initially be self-supporting and at the time of the first annual review, it should show a 5% profit to be eligible for further retention.
The minimum distance between two post offices should be 1.5 Km. in cities with a population of 20 lakhs and above and 2 Km. in other urban areas.
No two delivery offices, however, should be closer than 5 Kms. from each other.
Delivery Post Office in urban areas should have a minimum of 7 Postmen's beats.

3. Norms for opening of Head Post Offices

Head Post Offices (HOs) are district level offices and the need/ justification for new HOs arises only occasionally. An HO is opened by conversion of a sub-post office into head post office or by bifurcation of an existing HO. The norms prescribed are:

(i) Each district should have a head post office provided a minimum of 20 sub-post offices can be attached to it. In the case of backward areas or places where there will be a definite improvement in financing sub-post offices/ GDS post offices, lower standard may be adopted, subject to the approval of the Postal Directorate.

(ii) If there is no HO in a district, opening of HO can be considered, if at least 20 SOs in the same district can be attached with advantage, to the proposed HO irrespective of the fact whether parent HO has 60 SOs or not. It has, however, to be ensured that such upgradation does not bring the number of SOs in account with residuary HO below 20.

(iii) An existing HO should be bifurcated, if the number of sub-offices attached to it exceeds 60. It should however, be ensured that as a result of the change neither the new nor old HO has less than 20 sub-offices attached to it.

Contdâ€¦4/-

Annexure-II

State-wise number of ATMs installed

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Sl.No. States ATM Installed at Post Offices
1 ANDHRA PRADESH 59
2 ARUNACHAL PRADESH 1
3 ASSAM 26
4 BIHAR 43
5 CHATTISGARH 14
6 DELHI 26
7 GOA 1
8 GUJARAT 41
9 HARYANA 20
10 HIMACHAL PRADESH 20
11 JAMMU AND KASHMIR 9
12 JHARKHAND 19
13 KARNATAKA 76
14 KERALA 48
15 MADHYA PRADESH 52
16 MAHARASHTRA 74
17 MANIPUR 1
18 MEGHALAYA 4
19 MIZORAM 2
20 NAGALAND 2
21 ORISSA 44
22 PUNJAB 26
23 RAJASTHAN 64
24 SIKKIM 1
25 TAMILNADU 97
26 TELANGANA 36
27 TRIPURA 3
28 UTTAR PRADESH 86
29 UTTARAKHAND 18
30 WEST BENGAL 63
Grand Total
976
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